

# Bavarian News

Vol 2. Nr. 8

Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels and Vilseck

April 19, 2006

## English cable now available off post

### Telepost Kabel Service

As of April 1, Telepost Kabel-Service, or TKS, introduced English language cable television service for off-base residents.

The new service is called Kabel Digital Englisch and is widely distributed in Bavaria, the Rheinland-Pfalz, and other regions, by Germany's largest cable TV provider Kabel Deutschland.

Kabel Digital Englisch is a digital programming package that offers off-

base subscribers 15 English language channels, transmitted in digital sound and picture quality. News and information, movies, family entertainment and sports are featured on networks such as CNBC, Sky News, TCM, AXN, Toon Disney, ESPN Classic Sport, and NASN.

Sign-up is available at participating TKS shops in Bavaria and the Rheinland-Pfalz. Activation is normally processed on the same day.

Kabel Digital Englisch is a cable-

based service and does not require a satellite dish. Kabel Digital Englisch utilizes the latest technology to broadcast English programs in digital sound and picture quality.

Subscribers simply connect their PAL or multi-system television set to the digital receiver and the receiver is then plugged into the cable jack. Receivers are available for purchase at the time of sign-up.

A stereo or home cinema system can also be connected to the system.

To get more details and to check if Kabel Digital Englisch is available in your home, visit a local participating TKS shop or call the

TKS Hotline at 01804 857 762 (0.24 €/call), e-mail: [service@tkscable.com](mailto:service@tkscable.com).

For more information, visit [www.tksable.com](http://www.tksable.com).

### Participating TKS Shops in Bavaria and the Rheinland-Pfalz:

**Bitburg**  
**Baumholder**  
**Würzburg**  
**Landstuhl**  
**Sembach**  
**Grafenwöhr**

**Spangdahlem**  
**Schweinfurt**  
**Kitzingen**  
**Kaiserslautern**  
**Vilseck**  
**Hohenfels**

**Bamberg**  
**Ramstein**  
**Illesheim**  
**Katterbach**  
**Garmisch-Partenkirchen**  
*KDE not available in Baden-Württemberg and Hessen.*

## USAG Graf units win supply awards

### USAREUR Public Affairs

United States Army, Europe, and Installation Management Agency – Europe combined forces in Heidelberg Apr. 4, to honor the top logistics warriors who supply and maintain everything the Army needs to fight and win.

Among those honored were the following U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr units:

Maintenance Activity Vilseck, General Support Center Europe, 21st Theater Support Command, Vilseck, Germany, in the TDA Small Category / Winners

Class III TDA Activity, U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr, IMA-EURO, Grafenwoehr, Germany, in the Level 2 (A) TDA Small Category / Runners-Up

Regional Supply Support Activity, U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr, IMA-EURO, Vilseck, Germany, in the Level 4 (B) SSA TDA Category / Runners-Up

The USAREUR-level, Army Awards for Maintenance Excellence, and Supply Excellence Awards recognize the attention to detail, innovation and hard work of logistical units throughout USAREUR.

The awards were presented by the Army Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics (G-4), Lt. Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody.

"The beauty of these awards is that good ideas have no rank," Dunwoody said. "You have young folks, civilians and Soldiers competing with good ideas that we can cross-fertilize throughout our services, for efficiency and better service to the warfighter."

That efficiency pays off for deploying units, said Staff Sgt. Donald E. Railey, property book officer for B Company, 141st Signal Battalion, 1st Armored Division.

"You have to predict what your future shortages are going to be, instead of waiting for them to occur," Railey said. "If you aren't looking at shortages a year out, they will come up on you."

The discipline that benefits units also benefits the taxpayer, Railey said.



Photo by Arthur McQueen, USAREUR PAO

**Chief Warrant Officer Jorge Mercado, representing Supply Support Activity, U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza, accepts the winner's trophy from Lt. Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody, Department of the Army G-4.**

"A property book officer, who is doing his or her job well, will get what the unit needs, when it needs it," Railey said, "if you create excess, it costs the government money."

The awards program looks at 16 key elements of each unit, including: maintenance posture, innovation, unique methods of doing business, small arms maintenance, prescribed load lists and tracking of equipment, said Ramon Hernandez, USAREUR G-4, acting chief, command logistics review team, and master of ceremonies.

Phase I of the awards program is an extensive written submission. Phase II is a site survey of the most promising nominations by a team of maintenance experts.

"It takes team effort, and a year of preparation," Hernandez said.

Competing teams consist of employees from all sides of the force. Units compete based upon manpower strength. Small units

See **LOCAL** page 14

## ETSing? ACAP your job info site

by **KATHY JORDAN**

Staff writer

When a Soldier prepares to leave the military, visiting their local Army Community Alumni Program can be an excellent source for getting job prospect information.

"The reason that we are here is to assist Soldiers that are leaving the Army get prepared," said Cathy Banks, the contract installation manager for the U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr's ACAP center.

"We are here to work with the Soldiers," she said. "We are not a job placement, by any means. We teach them how to do it themselves."

While ACAP services are geared toward ETSing or retiring Soldiers and their family members, other personnel can also take advantage of the assistance

"Anyone is welcome to come and look at the boards for job listings, but they cannot use our services," explained Banks. "Only those who have started the program are eligible."

She explained that the center's main purpose is to provide the Army's mandatory pre-separation briefing, which must be completed 90 days prior to a separation.

The pre-separation briefings are available one year prior to separation for Soldiers who are ETSing or who are being chaptered, and up to two years prior to separation for retirees.

The relatively extended timeframe, said Banks, "gives them more time to do everything and does not interfere with the unit's mission."

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## Budgeting, investment classes available for ID cardholders

by **SHANNON HILL**

Staff writer

Everyone knows that money matters.

In an attempt to enhance the overall mission readiness of personnel, the Army Community Services offers several classes to assist people with their finances.

The classes, open to all U.S. ID cardholders, are available in Vilseck and Grafenwoehr and focus on budgeting, investing, pre-retirement matters, and help for first-time homebuyers.

"Many Soldiers experience debt as a result of a steady paycheck and not knowing what to do with the money,"

said Leslie Hazzlerigg, the ACS Public Relations representative. "And excuses start happening."

ACS's three-part Investing class series includes:

Investing 101—investment risks and good and bad investing options

Investing 102—mutual funds

Investing 103—using the Internet for personal finance activities.

"Soldiers are a target audience for predatory lenders. They have a steady,



Perks

reliable paycheck," said Carey Perks, ACS financial advisor.

"Most payday loans average at about 600 percent interest, which pyramids very quickly," he said. "Soldiers may end up borrowing more money to pay back the money previously borrowed."

There are several reasons why Soldiers, personnel, and family choose to attend the finance class, just as there are several types of classes to suit each financial need.

ACS will offer a pre-retirement seminar May 19 in Bldg. 244 on Grafenwoehr. The class will cover creating and improving resumes and

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## IMA-E MWR hosting camp for kids of deployed troops

by **VICTORIA PALMER**

IMA-Europe MWR

In support of families of deployed Soldiers, Installation Management Agency-Europe Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host four Camp A.R.M.Y. Challenge sessions this summer.

Each week-long camp will feature team-building challenges and the usual myriad of outdoor adventure, swimming, hiking, creative arts projects and other activities associated with summer camp. But this is a camp with a twist—all campers have the common bond of having one or both active-duty parents deployed.

Camp A.R.M.Y. Challenge—the acronym stands for Adventure, Resilience, Memories, Youth—will

offer not only the opportunity to get away for a week of fun, but also a chance to meet other kids facing the challenges of having a parent deployed. All sessions will include activities to help campers develop strategies to cope with the stresses associated with deployment.

Middle school and high school students whose active-duty Army or Air Force parent is deployed between June 1, 2005 and February 28, 2007, are eligible to apply. Although the camp is hosted exclusively by the Installation Management Agency-Europe MWR Child and Youth Services, each Camp A.R.M.Y. Challenge session will have four camper spaces for Air Force youth in

See **CAMP** page 14



## Q&amp;A

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?



**Johna Harris**  
"In our own home running a home-based animal rescue center."



**Cheryl Pacheco**  
My husband will have a recording studio and I will have a small art gallery."



**Jan Bennett**  
"Sitting on a beach in Hawaii drinking a frosted Pina-Colada."



**Spc. Michael Salini**  
"Working in Aero-Space doing engine design."



**Annette Brownworth**  
"Retired from the Army, living in our home that was built by my husband somewhere in Georgia."



**Gunnar Gransbery**  
"In college, studying to be an astronaut back in the States."



**Lettie Richardson**  
"Living in Europe, driving a 2016 Mercedes Benz and living next door to my sister."



**Michael Walls**  
"Back on the ranch in Georgia."

## COMMAND MESSAGE

## Sexual assault has 'no place in Army, will not be tolerated'

**A**pril is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. This observance is dedicated to raising awareness of sexual

violence and promoting ways to prevent it.

Sexual assault and the attitudes that contribute to it have no place in our Army and will not be tolerated. This violent crime is incompatible with the Army Values, the Warrior Ethos, and our standards of discipline and professionalism. It also destroys morale and compromises unit combat readiness.

Therefore, preventing sexual assault is everyone's responsibility and should be a top priority for commanders.

Sexual assault is the second most-reported felony in the Army in Europe. To help eliminate incidents of this crime, I want every commander and leader to educate Soldiers and civilians on ways to prevent sexual assault and how to help assault victims. Commanders must also create safe environments in which to live and work. As a minimum, commanders must:

**Ensure that each Soldier and civilian receives scenario-based, small-group training each year on sexual assault prevention and response.**

This training should concentrate on sexual assault prevention, risk-factor



**McKiernan**

**" Sexual assault is the second most-reported felony in the Army in Europe. "**

awareness, appropriate dating behavior, how to avoid becoming an offender or a victim, the correlation between sexual assault and alcohol abuse, restricted and unrestricted reporting options and procedures, victim care and support services, and the consequences of committing this crime.

Most of all, leaders must ensure that Soldiers adhere to the Army Values and understand that sexual assault is an expression of hostility and aggression (a behavioral act) and that the victims are not at fault.

**Respond to all allegations of sexual assault expeditiously, verify that all incidents are investigated promptly and impartially, and ensure they are resolved quickly.**

Commanders are responsible for protecting and supporting victims. They must also take appropriate administrative or judicial actions based on the facts and circumstances of each case to hold offenders accountable. All leaders and Soldiers are responsible for reporting incidents of sexual assault to help victims and prevent offenders from assaulting someone else.

They must also ensure that victims are aware of and have access to the numerous care and support services available in the Army in Europe. These include chaplains, installation and unit victim advocates, law enforcement officials, medical professionals, sexual assault response coordinators (SARCs), and deployable SARCs.

**Take proactive measures to provide a safe and healthy environment for those in their charge.**

These measures include providing an overview of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program to newly assigned Soldiers within 24 hours after their arrival, implementing stringent barracks policy to lower the risk of assault, increasing leadership presence in the barracks, improving the lighting in the barracks and parking lots, and insisting that entry doors remain locked.

Develop a strategic plan that incorporates all aspects of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program. This plan should begin with procedures for prevention and advocacy, and end with actions for ensuring offenders are held accountable.

Each of us has a responsibility to eliminate sexual assault in the Army in Europe. We can do this by taking proactive measures and ensuring our Soldiers and civilians understand that No means No!

*Gen. David McKiernan*

*Commander, U. S. Army Europe*

## Scarlet fever deserves respect, not fear

*Europe Regional Medical Command*

Scarlet fever. It once was a childhood disease that annually killed thousands in the United States. But today's strains aren't nearly as aggressive and can be treated relatively easily, said the Army's top pediatrician in Europe.

Dr. (Lt. Col.) Robert A. Smith, Europe Regional Medical Command's pediatric consultant and commander of the Mannheim health clinic, said parents no longer have to face the same fears of the disease that, perhaps, their grandparents did.

"It (the bacteria that causes scarlet fever) used to be a very virulent disease that caused more complications," Smith said. "The strains now don't seem to be nearly as dangerous."

Scarlet fever is caused by the Group A streptococcal bacteria that cause the more common "strep throat."

But with scarlet fever, the bacterium creates a toxin that attacks skin cells, causing them to turn red. It is distinguishable by a red rash that begins around the throat and on the chest that, if untreated, spreads rapidly to the trunk and extremities.

"It's a treatable disease because it responds well to penicillin," Smith said. "We've seen about the average number of cases this year - I haven't seen a lot of it. But, parents should be aware of the disease and become familiar with the symptoms."

He said a child coming down with the fever will likely feel sick

and complain of a sore throat and headaches. Other symptoms include the rash, which begins to develop after about 24 hours, and nausea and vomiting. Children between 2 and 12 are most susceptible to contracting the disease. He said it was rare for preschoolers to get it, and older children have built up a partial immunity to it.

"About 10 percent of children who come down with strep throat will develop scarlet fever," Smith said. He said the number fluctuates, too. "It comes and goes. Some years it's 10 percent, some it's 20."

Once doctors diagnose a child with the disease, the treatment consists of fever reducers, like

ibuprofen or Tylenol, and a 10-day regimen of penicillin. Smith said the penicillin should be taken all ten days, until it is used up. Parents should also remember not to share medications with others in the family, or stop giving the doses just because the child feels better.

"After treatment begins, a child will begin to look and feel better after two or three days. They can return to school after they've been taking the penicillin for 24 hours," he said. "It's not like chicken pox, where the parents have to keep the child home for 10-14 days."

He did urge parents, though, to take the disease seriously and

get treatment for their children.

"If a child complains of being sick, it's usually because they are," Smith said. "They're not like adults who have been known to claim illness to get out of going to work. If children are sick, they'll let you know."

He said parents can teach their children some basic personal hygiene tips, like washing hands, coughing or sneezing into a tissue or the crook of an elbow, and maintaining a proper diet. The bacterium behind scarlet fever is spread by coughing and sneezing, he said.

## (Dog) Gone... But Not Forgotten!

*By McKinsey*

**In 551 B.C.**, the great social ethicist K'ung-fu-tsu (Confucius) was born in China. His teachings, which guided China for more than 2,000 years, emphasized conduct in harmony with the heavenly order.

**In 1890**, Frederick Vinson was born in the Lawrence County Jail in Louisa, Kentucky, where his father worked. He is the only U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice to be born in a jail.

**In 1944**, the German Luftwaffe entered into service the first jet bomber - the Arado Ar 234-B2 "Blitz."



**In 1915**, a poster quoting David Starr Jordan, a noted scientist and president of Stanford University warned: "The boy who smokes cigarettes need not be anxious about his future. He has none."

## Bavarian News

Grafenwoehr • Hohenfels • Vilseck

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# Vilseck students exceed Red Hot goal

Story and photo by KATHY JORDAN  
Staff writer

Vilseck Elementary School ended its month-long Red Hot Reader challenge March 31. Students were given a goal of reading up to 153,205 minutes, collectively. The students exceeded that goal with a collective total 364,768 minutes. “Last year when we had twice as many kids, that was the goal we were trying to reach,” said reading teacher Ohni Rush. “They are very competitive this year, and they did a great job.” The children were encouraged by faculty, family, and friends, to read every evening for a special treat each week. “In the past we have offered Popsicle parties if you had 100 percent participation for one week of reading,” said Rush. “Last year, we had one class that had a Popsicle party. This time, we had classes that had Popsicle parties every week.” And as is years past, school principal Robert Allen made a challenge the children could not resist. Allen agreed to

buy pizza for every child in the school with the help of the Parent Teach Student Association if they reached their set goal. Allen has agreed to do some pretty interesting things over the last seven years to motivate the kids to success. “I have kissed a pig, had pies thrown on me, been taped on the wall, ridden a scooter around while wearing a costume, and on and on it goes,” said Allen. “I have to be prepared to lose every time, and I am a good sport every time. It’s for the good of all.” Regardless of what the treats or challenges are, the hope is the same each year. “What we want to do is excite them about reading,” said Rush. “Once they start reading, they find out that they like it, and they will continue without the competition going on.” During this year’s student assembly, students were entertained by their peers with songs, a skit, and cheers. Lt. Col. Alfred A. Pantano, the commander of the 94<sup>th</sup> Engineer Combat Battalion (Heavy), added to this year’s festivities with the return of Wally the Wolverine, the unit’s mascot. The students reacted to the Wally’s return from the year-long “deployment” with screams of joy during the assembly.



Vilseck Elementary students celebrate after reading 153,205 minutes collectively.

## German emergency, temporary passports void for U.S. travel

U.S. Diplomatic Mission to Germany

Beginning May 1, 2006, German emergency and temporary passports will no longer be valid for travel to the United States under the Visa Waiver Program. Holders of these passports who intend to travel to or through the U.S. must either obtain a regular German passport for Visa Waiver Program travel, or obtain a visa. People holding emergency and temporary passports who plan to enter or have entered the United States under the Visa Waiver Program prior to May 1 do not need a visa. **Q. What are the passport requirements for travel under the Visa Waiver Program?** Machine-readable passports issued or renewed/extended before October 26, 2005, are accepted without further requirements. Machine-readable passports issued or renewed/extended between October 26, 2005 and October 25, 2006, must have either a digital photograph integrated into the data page or an integrated chip containing information from the data page. Machine-readable passports issued or renewed/extended beginning October 26, 2006, must have an integrated chip with information from the data page. All passports for travel under the Visa Waiver Program must be machine-readable. **Q. What about diplomatic, official, or children’s passports?** German diplomatic and official passports are valid for Visa Waiver Program travel provided they are machine-readable. They are not subject to integrated digital photo or chip requirements at this time. Children’s passports, or Kinderreisepässe, are accepted for Visa Waiver Program travel provided they meet the passport requirements in the above paragraph. Children’s ID cards, or Kinderausweise, are not acceptable for Visa Waiver Program travel. Children included in a parent’s passport cannot travel under the Visa Waiver Program. They must have a visa or a valid Kinderreisepass for travel to the U.S. **Q. Why is this requirement been applied now?** In order to ensure the integrity of the Visa Waiver Program we are constantly reviewing the standards for documents accepted under this program. Unfortunately, German emergency and temporary passports, which are issued in many locations versus centrally, have gone missing or been stolen. Therefore, we are requiring visas to verify the bona-fides of temporary passport holders. For more information, visit <http://www.usembassy.de/germany/visa/> or call 0900-1-850055 (EUR 1.86/minute).

## Bavarian News Health Corner

The Health Corner is a new addition to the Bavarian News. This column is a useful tool for personnel and families who wish to stay up-to-date on health issues and medical concerns. Capt. Matthew Perry and Capt. Catharina Lindsey, with the Grafenwoehr Health Clinic, will introduce new topics weekly. Check your Bavarian News for the latest information.

**Name:** Capt. Catharina Lindsey  
**Position:** Grafenwoehr Public Health Nurse  
**Home:** King George, Va.  
**Last duty assignment:** Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Nixon, Nevada, with the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.  
**Office, building, phone number:** Grafenwoehr Health Clinic, 475-7118  
**Service we provide to the community:** Services generally fall into the category of Health Promotion/Disease Prevention:  
Health consultant for Child and Youth services.  
Provide training to units on topics like: HIV/AIDS Prevention, injury prevention, communicable disease prevention, tobacco cessation, etc.  
Provide education to individuals on communicable disease.  
Outbreak investigation and follow-up.  
Monitor incidence of preventable illness and attempt to identify and implement countermeasures.

### YOU AND THE FLU

#### Knowing the symptoms, good hygiene helps keep influenza at bay

I want to take this opportunity to discuss influenza or ‘flu’. Flu season can begin as early as October and last as late as May. The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent this illness is by getting a flu vaccination. Every year in the United States, on average: Five to 20 percent of the population gets the flu. More than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu complications About 36,000 people die from flu. Some people, such as older people, young children, and people with certain health conditions, are at high risk for serious flu complications. **The Symptoms** Symptoms of flu include: fever (usually high), headache, runny or stuffy nose, muscle aches, headache, extreme tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, muscle aches, and stomach symptoms such as nausea and diarrhea. The stomach symptoms are more common in children than in adults. **How Flu Spreads** Flu viruses spread in respiratory droplets

caused by coughing and sneezing. They usually spread from person to person, though sometimes people become infected by touching something with flu viruses on it and then touching their mouth or nose. Most healthy adults may be able to infect others beginning one day before symptoms develop and up to five days after becoming sick. That means that you can pass on the flu to someone else before you know you are sick, as well as while you are sick. **Preventing the Flu: Get Vaccinated** The single best way to prevent the flu is to get a flu vaccination each fall. The “flu shot” – an inactivated vaccine (containing killed virus) that is given with a needle. The flu shot is approved for use in people older than 6 months, including healthy people and people with chronic medical conditions. About two weeks after vaccination, antibodies develop that protect against influenza virus infection. Flu vaccines will not protect against influenza-like illnesses caused by other viruses. Flu shots are still available at the clinics in Grafenwoehr, Vilseck, and Hohenfels. Call your clinic to make an appointment. *Information courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*

## Sexual assault education key to prevention

by KATHY JORDAN  
Staff writer

The U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr community is taking full advantage of Sexual Assault Awareness Month to spread the news about the offense and resources that are available to victims. “Sexual assault is a long battle,” said Jay Velis, the sexual assault response coordinator. “We have to deal with the changing of behaviors. It’s a long struggle and process, and has been around a long time.” Velis said while sexual assault can be committed anywhere in the world, it has some unique aspects for U.S. personnel living abroad. “People can go off post, but the language barrier can place a huge burden on the victims if they seek support,” he said. “We have a lot of resources available in our Vilseck and Grafenwoehr communities. “We have the mental health clinic, social workers, chaplain and other resources,” said Velis. “We have the military police available and on call anytime we have a sexual assault case.” Velis said these resources are available to help prevent and report sexual assaults.

He explained that there are two types of reporting—restricted and unrestricted. Knowing the difference between the two can be crucial. With restricted reporting, medical care is received and information about the case is given to specifically identified individuals. “If the victim does not report the case to law enforcement or the military police the perpetrator is out there roaming free,” he said, about restrictive reporting. “And if the perpetrator is in the same command, we cannot separate them because the command is not allowed to know,” said Velis. With unrestricted reporting, Velis, explained that “after the report is made, an investigation is started, and this is the quickest way to get to the bottom of things.” When a sexual assault phone call is received by the on-call hotline advocate at Grafenwoehr or Vilseck, “if the person calling does not want to make a report to the authorities or the commander, we have the



Velis

ability to meet with the victim wherever they are located,” explained Velis. He said after personnel find out how the person reporting the crime wants to proceed with the complaint, evidence can be held for up to one year. “If they choose medical assistance, an on-call doctor and nurse are alerted and come in and see the person at that time,” said Velis. Some instances of sexual assault, however, are never reported. “Some of the reasons people do not report sexual assault is because of the guilt and shame,” said Velis. “We are in a small military culture where everybody kind of knows everybody in some way. “The alleged offender is most likely someone the victim knows,” he said. “That person could be someone in your chain of command, a supervisor, which would place the victim against that superior and puts the victim in an awkward position.” But for those who do come forward, Velis said there are more support services in place now than there were in the past to address the crime. “We also have the awareness piece that may have been lacking a few years ago,” said Velis.

“Now Soldiers have to go through training annually, and before they deploy, the commanders get (receive sexual assault) training also.” During training, Velis said Soldiers learn critical about sexual assault situations. He said drinking is a factor and encouraged people to drink in moderation so they are aware of their surroundings and actions at all times. He also noted that people should be aware of their drinking to make sure no one puts a “date rape” drug in their drink. Velis said that anyone can be a potential sex offender, and said age or gender does not play a role. He said most sexual assaults in the military take place in the barracks or government quarters. During calendar year 2004, there were 1,700 reported sexual assaults within the military. People who experience sexual assault are often called survivors by the sexual assault response team. “The word victim is probably not the right word. They are called survivors because they survived the sexual assault,” said Velis. The 24 hour hotline number for a sexual assault advocate is DSN 476-3217. The U.S. Army Europe hotline is DSN 371-3550/3551 or CIV 00-800-0-227-2858.



# Warriors Home

# Welcome



Photos by Reggie Dean

Master P performs for a screaming crowd at Vilseck Army Airfield March 29. Master P, Lil' Romeo, Warren, and Second Hand Mojo wrapped up the day of celebration to welcome home the 18th Combat Support and 94th Engineer battalions from deployment.

## Celebrities travel the globe to welcome USAG Graf units from OIF deployment

by KATHY JORDAN  
Staff writer

Great food, friendship, and headliner music were on tap for the festivities honoring the return of the 18th Combat Support and 94th Engineer battalions at the Vilseck Airfield March 29.

Attendees listened to local group Second Hand Mojo, who kicked off the evening's performances with music from the 70s, 80s, and 90s.

Recording artist Michael Warren and his band were also on hand for the celebration, performing rhythm, rock, funk, pop, and original music.

### New and Old

Renowned hip-hop artist Master P and rapper/actor Lil' Romeo performed new songs and old favorites for a screaming crowd. The father-son duo, along with Warren, traveled to Germany exclusively for the welcome home celebration and returned to the United States early the next day.

A lively crowd showed the performers their appreciation by singing along to their favorite tunes throughout the evening.

"I really think it is great that they thought enough of us to come over here and perform," said Toyce Alexander. "When the announcer said Master P made phone calls to get on this tour, I was really impressed by the determination he showed to come and support us."

Warren got fans to their feet by singing new songs from the band's current CD.

Warren is a native of Birmingham, Ala., where he and

band members reside. He describes his music as something for everyone.

"I think that everybody will find something they like in it," he said.

### Something for Everyone

The band has been performing together for seven months. Last week's performance was their first USO tour.

"My manager used to play drums and percussions for the Temptations and the Four Tops," said Warren. "They did a lot of dates with the USO and he thought it would be really good for us to do that. He made the call and got us on."

Warren said it was a privilege to play for the troops.

"We want to bring our music to them and give back because they have been fighting so hard for us," he said. "It is just a good day for us. It's an honor to be here."

Warren talked about the band's signature song, "Whenever," and called it a "crowd-pleaser" whenever they perform it in the southeastern United States.

"It is just about being there for people, sort of like what we hope we are doing here for the troops and the families," he explained.

Lil' Romeo and Master P rounded off the night's performances with hip hop selections, exciting an already energetic crowd.

Before stepping on the stage Lil' Romeo and Master P talked about what motivates them to do what they do.

"I'm here to support our Soldiers out there and give my love back to them for always going out there and fighting for us," said Lil' Romeo. "I'm here to show I appreciate them."

"I have a new song I am going to perform that nobody has ever heard of yet," he said as he took the stage. "Its called 'Soldiers.'"

When I see them, they give me inspiration to come do what I do," he said.

The star of the Nickelodeon television show, "Romeo!," said his fans also help to keep him focused by looking up to him as a role model.

When asked what advice he had for his fans, he said, "Get your education, no matter how hard it may seem because you will need it later."

"I have seen a lot of my uncles and other people who did not get their education," he said, "and they wish they could go back to those high school days and get it. I still go to a regular private school and try to live my school life, get my education, and have fun while I am doing it."

### Military Roots

Master P explained why traveling to Germany to perform for the troops was especially important to him.

"I come from a military family. My grandfather had 12 kids, and everybody was in the military. My family has been in the military since World War II to now," he said.

The 38-year-old rap artist and founder of the No Limit record label described his military roots and how it changed his life.

"When you look in our living room, you see nothing but military pictures," he said. That's where the name 'No Limit' comes from. That's where I come from."

Master P said his grandfather, Claude Miller, was a Soldier and a big influence in his life. "He did

It's about me growing up with my dad, Master P, and the No Limit soldiers.

### Heart of a Soldier

"It's about me growing up and having the heart of a Soldier. It's an inspirational song written by me and the beat was done by Eminem and Dr. Dre," said the 17-year-old performer.

Despite his wealth and fame, Lil' Romeo, who is a self-proclaimed straight-A student, said he stays grounded by family and makes education a priority.

### Family Ties

"My family keeps me going.



a lot for his country. He always wore his military jacket in the projects after he came home from World War II, and he was the man," he said.

### Man of Honor

"They called him Big Daddy. When he walked through the projects, you saw a Soldier, a man of honor," said Master P.

Putting to good use the lessons his grandfather taught him, he structured his life after the military.

"My goal was to be military-minded," he said. "I grew up in the projects, in a poor neighborhood. My grandfather always raised us like military kids. Everything was by the rules. You had to get stuff done by a certain time and have good grades in school."

Master P said his life was not an easy one, but his grandfather's influence on him was strong.

"I went to one of the worst schools in New Orleans, and I was a straight-A student," he said. "My grandfather did not accept anything less than that. One time I made a C on a test, and I got a whoppin'." It got my mind right. My grandfather was preparing me for something bigger."

And in spite of his serious desire to achieve great things, his music is all about the fans having a good time.

"When you hear my music, I want you to wake up and jump up and have fun," he said. "That's what my music is about, and that is what my life is about."

"I am here for the Soldiers and the troops who are going to war for us," he said. "Everybody has a role to play, and I am here to play my role to keep them going."

Master P is working on several movies, including the thriller, "Toxic." He most recently appeared in ABC's "Dancing with the Stars."



a *day* in the *Life*

Hohenfels postal work a unique experience

Story and photo by  
**MADDY VERNIEU**  
*Special to the Bavarian News*

Receiving mail is something that most of us take for granted. After spending the morning with the staff of the Hohenfels' Army Post Office, I will never complain about the mail being late again.

The APO opens at 10 a.m., but the workday begins at 8 a.m. for the entire staff. On most mornings, the mail truck from Frankfurt is waiting for the staff's arrival to begin unloading the truck. That's when the fun begins.

The day I visited the APO, there were 267 packages and mail bags on the truck. Qunice Rucker, the APO supervisor, explained that 267 pieces is a relatively small delivery for a Monday. Normally, there are about 300 packages and bags delivered on Mondays.

The mail is then sorted into "accountable mail" and "non-accountable mail". "Non-accountable mail" is regular mail that doesn't need to be signed for. "Accountable mail" is insured or certified, and must be scanned into a machine using the Postal Automated Mail, or PAM, system before being placed into a bin that that will be collected by the Community Mail Room staff.

In addition to accountable and non-accountable mail, "official mail" is also delivered to the APO. Official mail is addressed to an organization, unit, school, command group, or MWR.

Randall Hughes, the installation official mail manager, picks up official mail each morning from the APO, ensuring that it reaches its destination in a timely manner.

Every article of mail that is received at the APO is sorted into classifications and sent to the appropriate department for distribution. This is time consuming and tedious work, made even more difficult when mail arrives with an incomplete or incorrect address.

Some people may think that as long as the name and zip code are correct, delivering the mail should be easy. Not so, say postal workers.

Each incorrectly addressed mail is researched through the CMR address

database based on last names, before being correctly addressed by the mail clerk. This can be an enormous undertaking, especially when the recipient has a first and last name that is shared by many others in the database.

"We always try our best to get every piece of mail sent off in the right direction", said Walter Knight, Hohenfels' postmaster. "We want the public to realize that we don't just accept mail here, we also disburse all of the incoming mail to various locations on post, mostly the CMR."

"Once the mail gets to the CMR, it then has to be distributed to all of the various boxes," he said. "Sometimes the mail trucks are late or we have staff

absent because of illness, but the job still needs to get done, and we always do our job to the best of our ability.

Like Department of Defense civilians in general, the Hohenfels' APO is very unique. "This is an average size APO," said Rucker, "but come Christmas time, or Valentines Day, or any other special occasion, we are inundated with mail."

"We all have to work wherever we're needed, no one has one specific job here," he said of the multi-tasked employees. "Some people think that the clerk at the window only services the customers sending mail out from the APO that's not true. In between customers, the clerk is going out back and sorting mail continuously. There's not much down time."

While watching the APO staff work, I thought of the Bill Murray film "Ground Hog Day." It occurred to me that once the mail was sorted and the employees went home, the next day would be the same all over again.

It is essential that we as a community recognize the enormous amount of tireless effort that goes into the delivery of our mail. The least we can do is ensure that all of our creditors, family, and friends, have our correct and complete mailing address.

Come rain, hail, sleet, or snow, the Hohenfels' APO is open for business and ready to serve you. So, the next time you see the red sign outside of the CMR, be patient with the APO or CMR employees. They are doing their best to deliver your mail promptly.



Sorting the mail is all in a day's work for Hohenfels' APO Supervisor Qunice Rucker.

Pentagon Channel adds video podcasting

*Special to Bavarian News*

The Pentagon Channel, the Department of Defense's video news service, recently added video podcasting to its line of products that distribute the channel's military news and information to the military and audiences around the world.

"We work hard to communicate with the men and women of the department around the world," said Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. "I am pleased that we are using video casting and other increasingly important technologies to reach our global audience with all the news and information available on the Pentagon Channel."

The Pentagon Channel's video podcasting line-up is comprised of its daily military news and information show, "Around the Services in Brief - RECON," an in-depth look at real-world military operations, missions, and events; and "Around the Services Reloaded," a weekly round-up of news and information important to service members stationed around the world.

In addition to its new video podcasts, the Pentagon Channel will continue to offer an audio podcast and to stream a live Webcast of the channel at <http://www.pentagonchannel.mil/>.

"Leveraging technologies like video and audio podcasting allows us to communicate relevant and timely military news and information to our men and women in the U.S. military, anywhere, anytime – it's a great capability," said Brian Natwick, general manager of the Pentagon Channel.

Video podcasting is a method of publishing video broadcasts via the Internet, allowing users to subscribe to a feed of new files. There is no cost to subscribe and broadcasts are delivered straight to the subscriber's computer desktop. Files can be viewed either on a personal computer or on a mobile video device, such as a video-enabled iPod.

The Pentagon Channel, the Department of Defense's video news service, broadcasts military news and information for and about the 2.6 million members of the U.S. Armed Forces — active duty, National Guard, and Reserve. Broadcasting 24 hours a day, seven days a week, the Pentagon Channel helps ensure that U.S. forces remain the best informed in the world.

Today, the Pentagon Channel is available on-base to the more than one million service members who live and work on the 312 military bases, camps and installations in the United States that currently receive the Pentagon Channel.

Additionally, the channel is available to the 700,000 service members and their families serving overseas in 177 countries via the American Forces Radio and Television Service.

The Pentagon Channel also reaches more than 12 million households through commercial distribution on satellite and cable systems nationwide. DISH Network, Verizon FiOS and divisions of Comcast, Time Warner, Cox, Charter, Mediacom, RCN, Armstrong, Midcontinent, Knology, GCI, and a number of smaller cable companies and local access channels in communities around the country carry the Pentagon Channel.

For more information on video podcasting, as well as to view the Pentagon Channel streamed live, visit <http://www.pentagonchannel.mil/>.

Make a smooth move this season with IMA-E tips

*IMA-Europe Public Affairs*

The Installation Management Agency – Europe is gearing up for the high volume of Soldiers and families leaving and entering Europe this summer and have provided tips on how to make the shipment of household goods go smoothly.

The IMA-EURO Logistics Division Transportation Office is expecting a busier-than-usual Permanent Change of Station cycle and recommends the following:

Contact your local transportation office about 45-days before you would like to move. Don't wait until the last minute.

Try to remain flexible with your household goods pick-up dates. In addition to requesting a specific date, make plans for some alternate dates and be prepared to accept them. In a normal PCS season, you could almost always get the pick-up date that you wanted. That may not be possible this summer.

Look out for your fellow Army families. If you want to report early to your next duty station, you may be asked to defer your pick-up until a later date to make room for a family that must leave earlier.

Get a confirmed household goods pick-up date before you make other plans. Don't book your airplane tickets to your next duty station and hold off making your vacation plans until you know when your goods will be picked up.

Be prepared to wait a little longer for your goods to be delivered once you arrive at your next duty station. It's projected that this summer's challenges will be experienced worldwide.

For additional information, contact the transportation office at your local community.

04 May 2006  
13.00 - 16.00 hours  
Tower Theater, Graf

Get on our bus to see...  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS  
at Graf Tng Area

For registration and more info call DSN 475-7209



# German power: The difference is shocking!

by MARTINA BIAS  
Bavarian News Food & Culture columnist

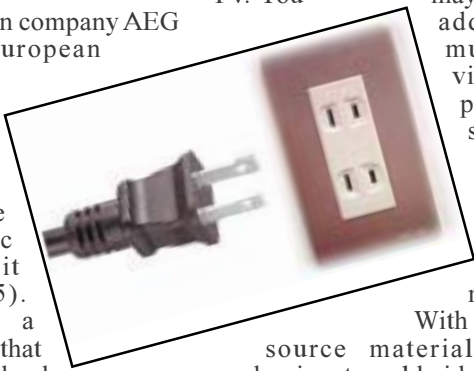
One of the first things you are told before you move to Germany is probably that the voltage here is not the same as in the United States (220 volts compared to 110 volts, respectively). If you are lucky, your quarters are equipped so you can operate your regular appliances, but if you live in a private rental, you might not be so fortunate. You will have to decide whether you will invest in transformers or purchase new electric appliances. Originally Europe operated on 110 volts, just as the US and Japan still do today. The switch to 220 volts was considered necessary in order to increase voltage with fewer losses of power and voltage decreases using the same copper wire diameter. The U.S. also wanted to change but decided against it because of the high costs of replacing all electric appliances. At the time, during the 50s and 60s, not many European

households had refrigerators or washing machines, while the average American home did. Curiously, all new American buildings are built with 220 volts split in two 110 volts between the neutral and hot wire. Virtually all drying machines and ovens, and other major appliances, are now connected to 220 volts and Americans who have European



equipment can connect to these outlets. Next, you realize that not only the voltage is different over here, but so are the plugs and outlets. Luckily, that problem can be solved by purchasing a relatively inexpensive adaptor. But keep in mind that there are 13 different styles of plugs and wall outlets throughout the world. This is something you want to keep in mind when traveling.

So, now you think you have it all worked out and you plug in your trusted alarm clock, only to wake up late the next morning. Your alarm clock is not displaying the right time. You wonder what the problem is, and discover that not only is the voltage different in Europe, but so is the frequency (standard 50 Hz versus the American 60 Hz). When the German company AEG built the first European generating facility, its engineers decided to fix the frequency at 50 Hz, because the number 60 did not fit into the European metric standard unit sequence (1,2 5). Since AEG had a virtual monopoly at that time, their standard spread to the rest of the continent. Having worked out the problem with the alarm clock, you may turn on your television to relax, only to find that you cannot receive any German, British, or French channels on your American TV. The reason for this is that the system used in America and Canada is National Television System



Committee, also called NTSC. Western Europe and Australia use a system called Phase Alternating Line, or PAL for short. Eastern Europe and France use Sequential Couleur Avec Memoire (Sequential Color with Memory), known as SECAM. The best solution for this problem is the purchase of a multi-system TV. You may also want to add a new multi-system video or DVD player to your shopping list to avoid the same problem while watching movies. With video-based source material, the two predominant worldwide formats are PAL and NTSC, which differ in both resolution and in frame rate. PAL is higher in resolution (576 horizontal lines) than NTSC (480 horizontal lines), but NTSC updates the on-screen image more frequently than PAL (30 times per second versus 25 times per second). The matter is a little different with DVDs, but might cause you the same

problem. There is nothing fundamental about a DVD that makes it either PAL or NTSC. These are mere words and formats that are applied to the DVD for convenience and convention. DVDs merely carry data files with compressed audio-visual information. The information can be placed on DVDs in one of two resolutions: 720 x 576 pixels (PAL DVDs), or 720 x 480 pixels (NTSC DVDs), and with various frame rates (24, 25, and 30 frames per second are common). The DVD players take these data files and formats the information for display in PAL or NTSC. Now that you have conquered some of the most common technical problems with moving to Europe, life should be wonderful. If only there wasn't the problem of converting weights, length, liquid volume, temperatures and clothing sizes. Fortunately for you, we will discuss those in the next column. Have you ever wondered why Germans so certain things? I welcome your questions and comments. E-mail me at [martina.bias@us.army.mil](mailto:martina.bias@us.army.mil), and I may be able to address your suggestions in a future column.

# Got a leek? Onion's cousin makes great soup

by MARTINA BIAS  
Bavarian News Food & Culture columnist

This is the first of a four-part recipe series that will give you a full course German meal, including today's Lauchsuppe (leek soup), followed by Krustenbraten (crusty pork roast), Kloessen (potato dumplings), and a slice of Frankfurter Kranz (literally "Frankfurt wreath" – a rich cake layered with Buttercreme (butter cream) for the final installment. This is a typical meal you might find a German housewife serving for Sunday lunch or on a special occasion. If it is served at midday, the cake might be saved for the mid-afternoon to be enjoyed with a cup of coffee.

Germans like to start a special meal with a comforting soup they call "Vorsuppe" (before-soup). To avoid spoiling a hearty appetite, these soups are usually light in texture and served in small bowls. The following recipe showcases leeks, a vegetable many Germans grow in their gardens. This perennial favorite is often paired with potatoes as the two vegetables complement each other nicely. Leeks have long been treasured in Europe and the Mediterranean. Some Americans may not be as familiar with this green vegetable Germans call "Lauch", but I have been able to purchase it in commissaries and grocery stores both here in Germany and in the U.S. Leeks are readily available year-round, although you will find a greater supply during their prime growing season from September through the end of April.

The leek (*Allium porrum*), is a member of the onion family. In France, the leek is known as poireau, which can explain the name "Poree" under which this vegetable is known around Bavaria. Many European chefs call leeks the poor man's asparagus. Asparagus is actually a distant relative of the leek. Foremost however, the leek is related to garlic and onions, especially shallots and scallions to which it bears a resemblance. Leeks look like large scallions, having a very small bulb and a long white cylindrical stalk of superimposed layers that flow into green, tightly wrapped, flat leaves. Cultivated leeks are usually about 12 inches in length and one to two inches in diameter, and feature a fragrant flavor that is reminiscent of shallots but sweeter and more subtle. Wild leeks, known as "ramps," are much smaller in size, but have a stronger, more intense flavor. In general, leeks can be substituted for onions in most dishes using onions for flavoring, but not vice versa. Substituting onions for leeks will result in a much stronger flavor. When you select leeks in the store, you should look for stalks that are firm and



straight with dark green leaves and white necks. Good quality leeks will not be yellowed or wilted, nor have bulbs that have cracks or bruises. Since overly large leeks are generally more fibrous in texture, only purchase those that have a diameter of one and one-half inches or less. The younger the leek, the more delicate the flavor and texture is. Look for the slim, cylindrical ones rather than those that are large and bulbous. If the



bottoms are beginning to round into bulb shapes, the leeks are a bit too mature. Like scallions, they are usually sold in bunches, generally about four leeks to a bunch. Hopefully you will be able to buy them unpackaged with the roots and dark green leaves intact, which will give them longer storage life. If the leek is limp, pass it up. Fresh leeks should be stored unwashed and untrimmed in the refrigerator, where they will keep fresh for one to two weeks. Be

aware that leeks will exude an aroma that can be absorbed by other things in your refrigerator, so you should lightly wrap them in plastic wrap to contain the odor and moisture. Leeks may be frozen after being blanched for two to three minutes, although they will lose some of their desirable taste and texture qualities. Leeks will keep in the freezer for about three months. As many German recipes call for a limp texture, German housewives often choose to freeze them despite the negative effects. Unfortunately, leeks are dirt magnets, making cleaning them extremely important. To prepare leeks, trim off the root end and about 1/4 inch of the white base. Remove and discard of any ragged, coarse outer leaves. Trim each of the darkest leaves down to the light green, more tender portion, leaving about two inches of green. Slice the leeks down the center and rinse under cold running water to remove all dirt, paying special attention to the areas between the leaves where dirt gets trapped. Drain on paper towels, and proceed with your recipe. All this extra work is well worth it as leeks are extremely good for your health. They are a good source of dietary fiber and contain certain amounts of folic acid, calcium, potassium, and vitamin C. Leeks are easier to digest than onions, and are said to possess laxative, antiseptic, diuretic, and anti-arthritis properties. So start your mealtime off the healthy way, and give the following creamy soup a try. Guten Appetit!

Lauchcremesuppe (leek cream soup)  
½ pound potatoes, peeled and diced  
1 medium leek, cleaned and thinly sliced  
1 onion, finely diced  
2 Tbs. oil  
3 cups vegetable broth  
¾ - 1 cup of whipping cream or half & half  
1 tsp. salt  
1/2 tsp. pepper  
1/8 tsp. nutmeg  
more salt, pepper, nutmeg to taste

In a large pot, sauté leeks and onion in oil for a short time. Add diced potatoes and vegetable broth. Bring to a boil. Add cream and seasonings and gently boil soup for about 20 minutes. Cool slightly. Puree soup in a blender. Return to pot to reheat, adding more seasonings according to taste. Serve topped with croutons, if desired. Yield: 4 servings

Do you have a favorite German dish you would like to recreate at home? You can e-mail me at [martina.bias@us.army.mil](mailto:martina.bias@us.army.mil), and I may be able to feature your request in a future issue.



## Grafenwoehr/Vilseck Briefs

### Lexington Ave.temporarily closed due to construction

Lexington Avenue will be closed May 2 to June 19 between the Tower Theater (Bldg. 620) and post headquarters (Bldg 621). Motorists in Bldg. 621 must drive to their parking lot by driving up Gettysburg Road, turning left after the old Shopette, and making another left at Lexington Avenue.

### Minor construction work may cause delays

Motorists can expect some delays when entering post through Gate #3 tomorrow and Friday.

### Town Hall Meeting today at Grafenwoehr Elementary

A Garrison Grafenwoehr Town Hall meeting is set for 4 p.m. today. Find out the latest information about construction activities, school programs, retail operations and more. This is also your opportunity to be heard on issues and concerns you want to address. Supervisors are encouraged to let Soldiers and civilian employees leave early to attend this important quarterly forum. Open to all members of Grafenwoehr and Vilseck communities.

### Three Men and a Tenor at Graf Tower Restaurant

Three Men and a Tenor will perform Pop, Motown, Country, Oldies and originals May 4 at the Graf Tower Restaurant at 7 p.m. The performance is open to all ID holders. No admission charge. Come early for good seats, dinner, and the show. The group will also perform in Amberg at the Casino Hall May 6 at 7:30 p.m.

### Crown Jewel Bazaar boasts more than 40 vendors

Over 40 vendors from across Europe will be under one roof at the USAG Grafenwoehr Field House (Bldg. 547) May 5-7: **May 5:** Ribbon cutting at 11 a.m., Bazaar open until 7 p.m. **May 6:** Bazaar open from 10 a.m.–7 p.m. **May 7:** Bazaar open from 11 a.m.–5 p.m. The bazaar is open to all U.S. military ID card holders. Visa, Mastercard, cash, and checks are accepted. Stroller park is available.

### Pre-Natal Classes for first-time parents begin May 16

The New Parent Education & Support program is pleased to offer “Great Expectations,” Tuesdays, beginning May 16 for eight sessions. Classes will be held at the Vilseck ACS Bldg. 322 from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Topics include: Adjusting to Pregnancy Relationship Changes Nutrition and Exercise Fetal Development Basic Baby Care Understanding Infant Cues Budgeting for Baby and Becoming a Parent, and more.

Registration is required. Call DSN 476-2650 or CIV 09662-83-2650 for information.

### School registration for Graf Students scheduled

**April 26,** 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Grafenwoehr Middle School For children going into 6th, 7th, 8th grades. Place: The location is at Vilseck Elementary School, Room 122 Please bring the following documents to registration: Re-registration Packet (provided to your child at school) Sponsor’s Orders listing child’s name as a dependent Original Birth Certificate or Passport Student Social Security Number (card preferred) Original Immunization Records **Additional Information:** Students 11 yrs. or older are required to have a DTaP booster on file within two weeks of their eleventh birthday. Contact your Health

Clinic prior to taking required immunizations. **27 April,** 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Grafenwoehr Elementary School For children going into Sure Start and Kindergarten Place: Grafenwoehr elementary School, Grizzly Room Please note: Kindergarten Students must be 5 years old by Oct. 31 Please bring the following documents to registration: Sponsor’s Orders listing child’s name as a dependent Original Birth Certificate or Passport Student Social Security Number (card preferred) Original Immunization Records **Additional Information:** New Sure Start and kindergarten students will need a physical exam prior to taking immunizations. Contact the Graf Health Clinic at 475-7152 to schedule a “pre-kindergarten exam.” **28 April,** 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.: Graf Elementary and Middle School For Children going into Sure Start through 8th Grade Place: Grafenwoehr Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room Please bring the following documents to registration: Re-registration Packet (provided to your child at school) Sponsor’s Orders listing child’s name as a dependent Original Birth Certificate or Passport Student Social Security Number (card preferred) Original Immunization Records **Additional Information:** New Sure Start and kindergarten students will need a physical exam prior to taking required immunizations. Students 11 years or older are required to have a DTaP booster on file within two weeks of their eleventh birthday. Contact your Health Clinic prior to taking required immunizations. For more registration information, call Ms. Kane, the school nurse, at 09641-83-7645 or Mrs. Crawford, registrar, at 09641-83-6132. **Avian Flu Guidelines: What to Do if You Find a Dead Bird** What should I do with a dead bird? Pick up any newspaper or watch any news program and you will see that almost every country in Europe has now been affected by the H5N1 strain of the bird flu. Right here in Germany, six German states have confirmed cases of birds dying from bird flu and in northern Germany, one cat has also succumbed to the disease. So an obvious question is, “What should I do if I find a dead bird?” The most important piece of information in addressing the question is “How big is the dead bird?” **Small song birds:** While H5N1 could affect little birds, as yet there have not been any findings of small bird H5N1 cases. Unfortunately, lots of little birds die this time of year, every year, from normal environmental impacts and, with all of the news media attention on bird flu, dead birds cause people to be concerned. In the case of a small wild bird being found dead anywhere on post or off post, individuals should dispose of it themselves by burying it or placing it in a plastic bag and disposing of it with the normal trash. **Large birds:** **On Post:** Any large dead bird such as a condor, goose, duck, swan, eagle, owl, hawk, stork, turkey, or chicken is cause for concern. If you find a large dead bird anywhere on post, the MP Desk MUST be notified immediately. **Off post:** If you find a large dead bird anywhere off post, immediately call the German Police who will give further guidance and/or instructions. If you are uncomfortable calling the German Police, call the MP Desk Sergeant who will contact the German Police for you. **Other Safety Measures:** Domestic cats should be kept indoors and dogs should be kept on a leash for the duration of the current bird flu problem. Domestic animals that eat dead birds infected with HN51 can contract the disease.

### Book appointments online at Vilseck Health Clinic

Did you know you can book medical

appointments at the Vilseck Health Clinic without ever using the phone? Appointments can be booked online at <http://www.tricareonline.com> . For information on how to set up a user account, Capt. Emily Stehr at [Emily.stehr@us.army.mil](mailto:Emily.stehr@us.army.mil) . **VCSC Presents Vegas Night at Yesterday’s April 28** Join the VCSC April 28 from 5:30-11 p.m. at Yesterday’s Club in Vilseck for Texas Hold’em, Blackjack, Poker, Roulette, Karaoke, Weddings by Elvis, and more. \$10 for food. Prizes and lots of fun. Everyone is welcome. To participate in the Texas Hold’em Tournament, sign up at 5:30 p.m. April 28 at Yesterday’s or contact Michelle McLaughlin at 09644-689746 or [heath\\_and\\_michelle@yahoo.com](mailto:heath_and_michelle@yahoo.com).

### ACAP offers briefings, resume labs, transition assistance

Transition assistance events offered to separating Soldiers and their spouses. Preparation Briefings are held daily by appointment, except Thursdays. Resume Writing Lab (civilian-type resumes) scheduled today Transition Assistance Program Workshop (TAP) set April 25-26 VA Briefing set May 3. Call DSN 476-2055 to sign up.

### Place your free ad in the Bavarian News online

All valid ID cardholders can place free ads in the Bavarian News. Fill out the form at <http://www.rlehner.de/trainingtimes/freeclass.htm>. Be sure to include a contact phone number.

### Grafenwoehr Military History group meeting monthly

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m., Bldg. 445 (Grafenwoehr Library) Scheduled Topics include: May 3—Andrew Jackson and the Creek Indian Wars, presented by Col. Jim Kennedy June 7—Gaijin Shogun, McArthur as the Father of Post War Japan, presented by Robert Snell

### SAEDA class set April 27-28

The Grafenwoehr and Vilseck communities will conduct the third Subversion and Espionage Directed against the Army (SAEDA) class. This class is a mandatory annual requirement for all DOD personnel including military, AF/NAF (both U.S. and LN). Training will begin promptly at the indicated times as follows: **April 27—**Vilseck Post Theater: 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m. for U.S. personnel / 2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m. for LN personnel **April 28—**Grafenwoehr’s Tower Theater: 9-10:30 a.m. for U.S. personnel / 10:30 a.m.-noon for LN personnel

### Free Entrepreneur Workshop scheduled April 27-29

Are you interested in starting your own business? The Gründerzentrum (Business Development Agency) in Grafenwoehr offers a free three-day Business Start-Up Seminar April 27-29 from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. The workshop is designed for English-speaking participants who would like to start their own business or become self-employed. The workshop will help participants develop business ideas and will focus on the following: Development of a business concept Personality of the entrepreneur Structure of a business / marketing plan Types of private enterprises Legal requirements and prerequisites Competitor analysis Marketing and marketing mix Sources of industry-specific statistics The free workshop can be supplemented with additional coaching or consultation sessions to aid with individual areas of interest. Those are also free. To register, e-mail [g.w.murry@t-online.de](mailto:g.w.murry@t-online.de) with detailed contact information (full name, cell phone, work phone, e-mail).

### Local Flea Market Listing

Flea markets are held every Saturday in Würzburg, BayWa Baumarkt, Nürnbergerstrasse – near the US Post /

BMW dealership Metz, France (Exhibition Centre, Metz East) Saturdays from 6 a.m. – noon, Sunday from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Visit <http://tourisme.mairie-metz.fr> for more information.

### Share culture and experience, join Your Local Kontakt Club

Learn about Bavarian customs, traditions and lifestyle and share yours. The Kontakt Club is a great opportunity to meet fellow American and German friends, play games, and have fun. Check out their current events online at <http://www.grafenwoehr.de/home/index.asp?sid=&tid=26&topnavid=7&navid=0&bid=1696>. For information on the Vilseck Kontakt Club, call Melvin Gonzales at DSN 475-7441. The Amberg Kontakt Club meets at the Hubertushof in Amberg. Contact Joe Roberts at CIV 09645-601294. For more information about Kontakt Clubs in the area, call Franz Zeilmann at USAG Grafenwoehr Public Affairs, DSN 475-8885 or CIV 09641-83-8885. **Bridge distance to your loved ones with Video Messenger** MWR is introducing the new Video Messenger, portable recording studios, available for children, families, and Soldiers to record themselves prior to deployment. It is also an ideal means for children and family members to communicate with deployed Soldiers. The program is available by appointment only to eliminate unnecessary waits. For more information, visit or call the Grafenwoehr library at DSN 475-1740.

### April Library Events

Nurnberg Trial Documentary Night on Tuesday, 6 p.m. Nurnberg Trial Road Trip April 29 For more information, call DSN 475-1740, COMM 09641-83-1740.

### VA is only official government resource for veteran benefits

The Department of Veteran’s Affairs is responsible for administering a wide range of programs available to the nation’s vets. As a U.S. government agency, the VA is a nonprofit organization. Veterans seeking assistance must be cautious of companies that appear to offer similar programs. As a nonprofit organization, the VA will not ask you to buy anything and will not ask for personal information. It will not ask for remuneration for its services. If an organization is requesting personal information, particularly financial information, it is probably not affiliated with the VA.

To inquire about any organization that alleges VA affiliation, contact the VA Overseas Military Services Coordinator at DSN 483-6007 or CIV +49-631-411-6007, or visit the official VA Web site at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov). VA publishes a booklet called “Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents” which is available online.

## Hohenfels Briefs

### AER Fund Drive Kick-Off

The 2006 AER Fundraising Drive kicked off March 31 in Hohenfels. This year’s AER Fund Raising Campaign will run April 1-May 15. Last year, AER provided more than \$100,000 in financial assistance to aid the emergency needs of Soldiers, retirees, and families in the Hohenfels community. See your unit AER Fund Drive representative today to make a contribution.

### Make it, Bake it, Take it Silent Auction scheduled Monday

Join us for lunch and a Make It, Bake It, Regift It, Take It, Silent Auction Monday at the Hilltop Chapel Center! Do you have a fabulous family recipe that you would like to share and a polish pottery dish that isn’t your favorite pattern—bake it and place it in the dish. Do you have a beautiful vase that Aunt Sally gave you, but just “doesn’t go” with your décor—put some flowers in it and wa-lah! Or, are you a crafty sort that would like to share some of her wares? This is the last HCSC event for the calendar year, and we will vote for the 2006-2007 Executive Board. Come out and have a great time from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. RSVP to Tammy Bagdasarian at [tammybagdasarian@hotmail.com](mailto:tammybagdasarian@hotmail.com) or call CIV 09472-911787.

### Martial arts instructor offers adult Taekwo-Do

Join Taekwon-Do classes for adults every Sunday from 1-2:30 p.m. at the Hohenfels Post Gym. Instructor Georg Kampitas is an internationally qualified martial arts instructor and the founder of the International Black Belt Association. He has been teaching Taekwon-Do classes for over 40 years. Call to sign up at DSN 466-2883, CIV 09472-83-2883.

### AUSA Box Run set April 29

Choose from a half marathon, 10K, or 3K Fun Run. The first 250 participants to register by April 26 will win a free T-shirt. Call DSN 466-2224 for more information.

**BULK TRASH PICK-UP**  
*City of GRAFENWOEHR and villages Gmuend and Huettten*

**WHEN AND WHERE:**  
**Monday, April 24, curbside, in front of your home**  
**THIS PICK-UP IS MAINTAINED BY THE LOCAL COUNTY, NOT THE U.S. ARMY**

**WHAT WILL BE PICKED UP?**  
Everything, that is too big or too heavy to go into the normal refuse container, including: Furniture, mattresses, carpets, washing machines, dryers, radios, TVs, ovens, stoves, bicycles, strollers, etc., and other items that cannot be dismantled or broken down to a size that would fit in the regular refuse container.  
Each single item should be no larger than 80x40x32 inches and no heavier than 110 pounds.  
Bulk trash consisting of metal (i.e. bicycles, washers, dryers, stoves, etc.) and electronic equipment (i.e. large and small appliances, cooling devices, information and telecommunications, including entertainment equipment) should be put out separately next to the normal bulk trash.  
**Pick ups will be performed in three steps:**  
1. **Combustible material** like mattresses, rugs, furniture, etc.  
2. **Electronic equipment:** i.e. TV, PC, printer, scanner, radio, VCR, DVD player, monitor, vacuum cleaner, refrigerators and freezers (permission stickers no longer required) etc. together with  
3. **Metal items:** i.e. bicycles, ironing boards, washer, dryer, dishwasher, stoves (oil stoves and oil barrels must be totally emptied), etc.  
4. **Wood** (i.e. wooden bed frames, wardrobe, chairs, and tables, etc.)  
  
Smaller electronic appliances: (i.e. hairdryer, toothbrush, telephone, drilling machine, etc.) should be dropped off at the infrequent off post "circuit riding" poison wagon. The poison wagon will be in Grafenwoehr at the "Staedtische Bauhof," Thumbachstr. 27 on Jun 10 from 2:20-3:50 p.m.

**WHAT WILL NOT BE PICKED UP?**  
- Normal refuse, recyclable material, garden refuse such as cut grass, branches, etc.  
- Hazardous waste  
- Tires, car parts, batteries, wrecked cars, or motorcycles  
- Doors and windows (with or without glass), laminated floor, or rouleaux  
- Construction debris  
- Night storage heaters  
Any material not picked up must be removed by residents. Don't put out the wrong stuff!!!  
It may happen that the pick-up is delayed for some reason. If your material does not get picked up on the announced date, just leave it in place. It will be picked up for sure on the next day or the day after.



# Do you know your Army sports history?

**21.** Our interest in Tag is that we know Army Sports spent its childhood, formative years and matured under TAG. We know the first General Order (#241) issued in the Army concerning sports and athletics was issued in 1918 by General John J. Pershing. Some of the key words and phrases we use today are contained in that document.

**22.** The first Army regulation we can identify with TAG is AR 15 -5 issued in January 30, 1924. However there is no mention of sports or recreation. 21 Therefore it is safe to assume TAG was not in the game yet. AR 15-5 was reissued June 30, 1928 and TAG is mentioned to have the duty of supervising the recreation and welfare of the Soldier. 22 No elaboration is provided. And then AR 15 -5 is reissued October 10, 1939. TAG is responsible for general matters pertaining to recreation. 23 Of course those matters are not defined. Then AR 15 -5, June 15, 1942 states TAG's duty is execution of administrative functions and properly determine policies pertaining to recreation. 24 In 1952 the Adjutant General's Department is changed to the Adjutant General's Corps June 21 and TAG's duties are listed as providing military personnel management to special services activities (recreation). AR 15 -5 is superseded by SR 10-305-1. SR 10-305-1 is the regulation that made it clear as to what we are and what we are to do. Paragraph 6c states that TAG provides Army-wide supervision of special services activities. For the first time, it adds specificity by stating that TAG is responsible for planning and supervising the Army's participation in interservice and international sports competitions.

**23.** It is felt it is reasonable to assume that after the Inter-Ally Games in 1919, the success of those games lead the leadership to believe the sports program must be nurtured and in 1924, the Adjutant General's Department received that duty. Under TAG's leadership, positive things began to happen to the Army Sports Program.

**24.** In April 1, 1942, the special services branch school offered its first recreation officers' course at Fort Meade. The course was 28 days in length and classes operated on a five week cycle. The primary emphasis was placed upon planning, organizing and supervising practical recreation and welfare activities for troops in domestic and overseas theaters of operation. 26 Soldiers working in the special services arena were assigned four military occupational specialties (MOS's). They were 03B(entertainment specialist), 03C(physical activities specialist), 03D(crafts specialist) and 03Z(recreation service senior sergeant).

**25.** This course, later refined, opened the door for professionals to run the Army Sports Program. It must be remembered the first individuals attending the recreation officers course were officers in the US Army. Recreation services remained military until the US Congress decided that those jobs that can be best performed by civilians and at a lower cost be done so. Additionally, the Congress started to frown on borrowed military. In an effort to comply with the wishes of Congress, the Morale Support Directorate of TAG started to civilianize the Recreation Services Officers and Sports Directors jobs. Drove of recreation professionals left Continental US (CONUS) jobs to pursue the opportunities in overseas US (OCONUS) areas specially Germany. With the draw down, troops now specially in Germany, the trend had reversed its self.

**26.** Right after W.W.II, conditions concerning the morale of the troops was similar to the conditions after W.W.I. To meet the needs of Soldiers, the office of the chief of special services offered a program of recreational athletics sufficiently diversified to satisfy all Soldiers, regardless of age. They had an opportunity to engage in and watch the games they liked best: boxing, football, baseball, softball, tennis, golf, track and field, badminton, bowling, swimming and even archery and horseshoe pitching. Never in Army history had there been such a wide - scale "sports for all" program. Not only were sports assigned a place in the regular training program, as a means of physical conditioning, they were also pursued with avid interest by troops in off-duty time. 27

**27.** On October 10, 1947, the Secretary of the Army approved the establishment of an Inter-Service Sports Council so that service wide championships in various sports might be conducted annually with the three Departments of the National Military Establishment participat-

ing on an equal basis. The Army Chief of Special Services was directed in coordination with the US Air Force and the US Navy to formulate plans and policies necessary for implementing this program. On 22 and 23 October 1947 respectively, the Secretaries of the Air Force and Navy indicated their concurrence in the establishment of the council and designated representatives to act as members of the council. At the first meeting of the council held on 21 November 1947, each of the three departments were asked to obtain approval for a joint Army-Navy-Air Force golf tournament to be held during the calendar year 1948. Arrangements were also completed at this meeting for the inclusion of the Air Force in the annual Inter-Service Tennis Competition which had been conducted annually between the Army and the Navy since 1924. The golf and tennis competitions kicked off the Armed Forces Championships as we know them today in the summer of 1948.

**28.** A few years after W.W.II, several of the allied nations formed the International Military Sports Council ( Conseil International du Sports Militaire - CISM) whose primary purpose was the promotion of world-wide good will through sports competitions. While the USA was not among the nations which met February 16 -18, 1948 at Nice, France, to found CISM, it can nevertheless claim credit for organizing the Allied Forces Sports Council, which was the forerunner of CISM. Also, the USA can claim credit for active participation in CISM championships, since its admission, and for contributing toward the leadership and growth of CISM. At the end of W.W.I, General Pershing, US Army, was searching for a means to bridge the language and culture barriers and bring together the allied forces in Europe into a cooperative cohesive force. He conceived the idea of an Allied Sports Council (ASFC). Championships were organized in different sports and the ASFC was an instant success. When W.W.II ended, General Joseph McNarney, US Army, was faced with many of the same problems General Pershing faced. He recalled the earlier success of the ASFC and revived the idea. The 12 nation ASFC was also an instantaneous success. Allied forces from Western Europe and those from Eastern Europe competed against each other on the playing field in perfect harmony. But in 1947 political storms began to appear on the horizon. Russia and the other Eastern countries withdrew. England and the USA followed. The ASFC disintegrated. However, five nations that realized the full potential of military sports in bringing nations together refused to let the idea perish. They met in Nice and formed CISM. The USA joined the new organization in 1951. 29 When formed in 1949, there were fewer than 20 nations in CISM, now that number exceeds more than a 100. In 1963, the US Armed Forces Teams entered every competition (14) sponsored by CISM and hosted two (boxing and volleyball). 30 Over the years, we cut our participation level, but these CISM competitions give our Soldiers athletes the opportunity to participate in some of the best international amateur competition available.

**29.** Right after W.W.II, a typical special services recreational sports program was the Pacific plan, concerned with Soldiers in the five commands, Korea, Japan, Philippines, the Marianas and Hawaii. The program had two principle aims: participation locally of every Soldier in at least one sport and participation of teams from the various commands in theater wide competition. In the European command, the concept was similar.

**30.** The US Congress finally realized that Soldiers did more than fight. They had idle time that could be filled by participation in the highest levels of amateur athletic sports competition.

**31.** The services carried the fight asking that appropriated funds be authorized to support the military in their efforts to gain positions on the US highest level amateur teams.

**32.** In 1955, the 84th Congress amended the work of the 80th Congress. The amendment was to PL 159. The amendment which became PL 11 stated loud and clear what the Congress intended. It read, to authorize personnel of the Armed Forces to train for , attend and participate in the Second Pan American Games, the seventh Olympic Winter Games, Games of the XVI Olympiad, future Pan American Games and certain other international amateur sports competitions, and for other purposes. The amount Congress authorized for the services was \$800,000 every four year period. The services were allowed to determine their own formula for distributing the money.

**33.** After a few Olympics pasted, the services became keenly aware that the \$800,000 every four years was grossly in adequate. After the USA boycotted the 1980 Olympics in Moscow, the services started to push for an increase in the PL11 allocation. The Olympics were going to be held in Los Angeles and this would be the ideal time and to showcase America's military athletes. The services did not get the money for LA, but it was increased to \$3,000,000 every four years October 1984.

That would give the services the entire 4 year period to prepare for the Seoul, Korea Olympics. To their appreciation, Army athletes went to Seoul and captured 3 gold and 1 silver medal.

**34.** Nothing has been found out about the sports or recreational pursuits of African-American military personnel in the Revolutionary War or the Civil War. Perhaps the reason being was their small number, percentage wise, obscured what they did. From the Spanish-American War forward, that situation changed. In fact, 13% of the doughboys of W.W.I were African-American.

**35.** Immediately subsequent to and during W.W.I, American Soldiers encountered numerous new challenges. Emigrants and native-born men of European- African descent, men from the city and from the country, men with sophisticated education and virtually illiterate men were gathered together and went to war. Contact between black and white troops was strictly controlled during, the first World War, as military authorities strove to keep black Soldiers from standing side by side with white Soldiers on the battlefield. 35 Sometimes, there could be no avoidance of the races participating together in athletic competitions. For example, when the installation varsity team participated outside the gate, emphasis was placed on the best athlete available regardless of race. During the 1920 Olympic tryouts held at Jefferson Barracks, MO, African- American athletes participated and did extremely well.

**36.** The wartime experience of African-American athletes in the services was quite varied. Despite the military's commitment to maintaining as much segregation as possible, in units, on bases and in the command structure, that guarantee could not always be met. Nor could the guarantee that African-American athletes have opportunities similar to their European-American counterparts be met. Thus, on some bases black Soldiers and sailors found that their sports and recreational opportunities were severely limited while on other bases, black athletes, particularly those with superior skills were welcomed as teammates, and as representatives of the post in off-base competitions. That such integration did occur suggests that despite their best efforts those opposing ultimate equality of opportunity for African-Americans within the service and in civilian life, were fighting a losing battle.

**37.** In 1973 the All Army Trial Camp Support Activity (AATCSA) was established at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA to support the competitive and training apparel requirements for the growing All Army Sports Programs. As the departmental level programs continued to grow, and expanded the women's program, the need for an expanding support activity was soon realized. The Fort Indiantown Gap support base expanded to serving as the cradle for All Army Women's sport program in basketball, softball and volleyball that dates back to 1975.

**38.** Since that time, AATCSA has hosted more than 100 All Army Trial Camps, 24 Armed Forces and 2 CISM competitions. The All Army Teams have captured 51 gold medals at Armed Forces Championships. AATCSA has assumed seats on three national governing bodies and now included among its responsibilities are to appraise coaching staffs and hosts trial camp stations updated safety apparel and competitive uniform codes.

**39.** Recently the Base Realignment Commission directed management of Fort Indiantown Gap be assigned to the Pennsylvania National Guard. It was then that CFSC and the Pennsylvania National Guard signed a memorandum of agreement for the continued support of All Army activities and trial camp support activity at Fort Indiantown Gap.

**40.** The early seventies were a great time for the Army Sports Program at the installation level as well as the departmental level. Because of the Vietnam War, troop strength was high and great emphasis was put on the intramural and unit level programs. In order to accommodate

this activity, the Department of Army realized improvement to sports facilities must be accomplished. However whatever was to be done had to be done uniformly. There were plenty of horror stories from the field. For example, football fields were being constructed 10 yards too short, the same thing was happening with softball fields and running tracks were being built without the proper facilities being included. It was determined that the sports programmers at the installation level were not being allowed to fully participate in the construction process. Everytime a facility was built, the contractor always came up with new design. The design utilized in California might be somewhat different from the one used in Virginia or Alabama. The solution to this problem was to come up a generic design that could be utilized by all in the Army. In 1973 , the Morale Support Directorate of TAG along with the Huntsville District of the Corps of Engineers joined forces to produce definitive designs for outdoor playing fields and courts. The final product became TM 5-803-10 and is currently under revision with the new one available to the field by late 1998 or early 1999. This TM has been assigned an Air Force and Navy designation (NAV P-457 and AFR 88-33).

**41.** In the late seventies, the same team of TAG and the Corps combined talents again to produce definitive designs for physical fitness centers. Fitness centers in the Army inventory at that time were called gyms, brigade gyms, fieldhouses and anything else anybody decided to call them, but they all had been assigned the same construction criteria code of 74028. There was a difference in gyms, brigade gyms and fieldhouses, but you could not tell the difference by reading the construction criteria codes. At this time the Construction Criteria Manual, DOD 4270.1-M, was the document used to determine how many square feet an installation was authorized to have ( this document has since been replaced by the Architectural and Engineering Instruction Design Criteria).

**42.** The Army Sports Office set out to develop definitive designs for every facility authorized by the construction criteria manual. Designs were developed the 15,000 sq. ft., 21000 sq. ft., 52,000 sq. ft. and the 62,000 sq. ft. facility with natatorium. This design guide was developed and released to the field in 1976 and reissued in June, 1985. The only problem with design guides was the field didn't have to use them if they did not want to. Therefore what the sports office found even though we had definitive designs, our facilities were still being misdesigned.

**43.** In 1983, General Maxwell Thurman became Vice Chief of Staff, Army. General Thurman foresaw that in the outyears, MCA funds were going to become scarce and he directed that the Army should try to standardize designs for as many facilities as possible. Physical fitness centers were one of the facilities designated to develop standard designs.

**44.** A sub-committee was formed by the standardization office at the Corps of Engineers and the Army Sports Office chaired and still chair this sub-committee. Representatives from members of the Army Staff, all Corps of Engineer districts and the MACOM's were members of this sub-committee. To start out, selected members of the sub-committee visited several outstanding civilian physical fitness centers including the University of St. Louis and the University of Florida and several Army installations including Forts Hood and Rucker and USMA. The sub-committee then reconvened at Corps headquarters and selected an architectural engineer to develop the designs. After each rendering from the AE, the sub-committee would distribute to the field for comments and convene at the AE's office to incorporate the field's comments. This process continued until February, 1990 when the standards were approved. The standards take an installation instantly to 15 to 20% design. The only way an installation can avoid using the standards is to obtain a waiver from CFSC and the Corps. Standards have been built at Fort Belvoir, Fort Lee and Fort Leonard Wood. The key elements of these seven designs are a series of standard classroom modules and outdoor play areas. The packages includes various revisions to support new functional and mission requirements of the proponent, lessons-learned from the design and construction of recent physical fitness centers and were developed using the metric system of measurement.

*Pick up the May 3 issue to read more of your Army history.*



# Falcons face off against Patch Panthers

Story and photo by  
**KATHY JORDAN**  
*Staff writer*

The Vilseck Falcons soccer teams squared off against Stuttgart's Patch Panthers April 1.

The Patch Panthers' boys varsity team from won 3-2, followed by a 3-0 victory for Patch's girls varsity team.

The Vilseck Falcons boys' junior varsity team tied Patch's JV team with a score of 0-0, while Vilseck's JV girls won with a score of 3-0.

During the boy's varsity game, Patch Panthers' Tim Boswell and Zach Hoffer scored goals in the first half, keeping Vilseck scoreless by halftime.

In the second half, Vilseck's Tim Bruce scored a goal taking the score

to 2-1 in favor of the Panthers. With less than six minutes remaining, the Panthers' Hoffer scored again followed by the Falcons' Tim Bruce answering back with a score less than a minute later, bringing the score to the final 3-2 win for Patch.

Eric Ruzicka had 9 saves for Vilseck, and Archie Barnes had 10 saves for Patch.

Vilseck's Byron Schaffer and Derrick Jones had two saves each, while Vilseck's Tim Bruce had 4 shots, followed by Mike Klein's 3.

The Vilseck girls' varsity team did not manage to score during the first half.

The Panthers' Kylie Merchant and Ciarra McGregor scored one goal each, giving a halftime score of 2-0, before the Panther's Kate Frasca

scored the final goal, shutting Vilseck out with a 3-0 score.

Vilseck's Latoya Brunson had 9 saves, and Patch's Sherri Tenn had 2. Patch's Joy Strandhagen had 1 assist.

The Vilseck boys' JV team tied, 0-0, with Patch. Vilseck's Kollin Jordan had 7 saves, and Remington McCarthy had 1. Vilseck's Allen Sligh had 2 shot attempts.

Vilseck's JV girls defeated Patch, 3-0. In the first half Shamyra Coleman scored a goal for Vilseck. The halftime score was 1-0, in favor of Vilseck. In the second half, Megan Richardson and Sarah Klein scored one goal each for Vilseck to end the game.

Jennifer Clark had 5 saves for Vilseck, and Becky Linka had 4 saves. Vilseck's Amanda Chavis had 2 assists.



Vilseck High School's Meagan Richardson plays offense against a Patch opponent April 1.



Motorcyclists promote German-American relations and learn the local riding habits and rules.

## Motorcycle gatherings not just for enthusiasts

Story and photo by  
**SHANNON HILL**  
*Staff writer*

For motorcycle enthusiasts or simply anyone who is interested in meeting new people, U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr's Bob McGaffin and Hans Oetter have launched a program they hope will cater to just those interests.

McGaffin and Oetter meet with German and American motorcyclists every other Thursday to discuss their cycling passion, including where the best roads for riding are located.

But the gathering is not just for riders.

"It is not necessary to own a motorcycle in order to attend these meetings," said McGaffin. "The goal is to promote good relations between Americans and Germans, and to promote a safe, worthwhile ride."

McGaffin and Oetter, who are Motorcycle Safety Foundation rider

coaches, felt it was a great opportunity to share the camaraderie, local riding habits and rules, and great locations with other motorcycle enthusiast.

And for riders who are unfamiliar with German roads, McGaffin said the gatherings are a perfect opportunity to learn the lay of the land.

"German roads are often windy and not marked as clearly as those to which Americans are accustomed in the U.S.," said McGaffin.

And the gatherings are not just talk, said McGaffin. Four-man teams will enjoy the local riding experience as they cruise the neighboring countryside.

Part of the reason Sgt. 1st Class Steven Seegers attends is for the camaraderie and safety factor.

"When you're by yourself, things happen," he said. "Groups stick together. If something happens, there is help."

Information on European motorcycle events, which are held almost every weekend during the summer, will be distributed during the meetings.

McGaffin said the group will also discuss tips on safe driving and how to accessorize motorcycles.

He said it also an ideal way to stay in touch with government rules for riding.

McGaffin, who said he is the only certified American trainer throughout Europe, explained that service members and Department of the Army civilians are required to complete the Motorcycle Safety Foundation Rider's Course every three years while stationed in Europe.

Anyone can attend the meetings for free. he next meeting will be April 20 at 6 p.m. at the Thai restaurant across the street from the Schwimmbad in Grafenwoehr.

## USAG Mannheim co-hosts international basketball tournament

IMA-Europe News Release

The U.S. Army Garrison Mannheim, Installation Management Agency-Europe, is again co-hosting the International Albert-Schweitzer Youth Basketball tournament, April 15-22.

This year marks the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of this renowned tournament labeled the "unofficial world championships of junior basketball teams." Represented this year will teams from Australia, Canada, China, Croatia, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Serbia & Montenegro, Spain, Sweden, Turkey (defending champion), Ukraine, and the United States with an All-Star team.

Richard "Dick" McCann is returning as head coach for United States team for the sixteenth time since 1975. He will be assisted by coaches John Rhodes and Tommy Johnson, and delegate Mike Farfour.

The following players will represent the United States in the 2006 tournament:

No.	Name	Height	Pos.	Year	Hometown (High School)
4	Edwin Rios	6'0"	PG	Jr	Miami, FL (Chaminade)
5	Matt Salay	6'0"	PG	Jr	Cleveland, Ohio (St. Edwards)
6	Scoop Jardine	6'2"	SG	Jr	Philadelphia, PA (Neuman-Goretti)
7	Josue Soto	5'11"	SG	Sr	Jacksonville, FL (Arlington County Day)
8	Christopher Battle	6'2"	SG	Sr	Giessen American High
9	Marvin Gholston	6'4"	SG	Sr	Bamberg American High
10	Andrae McFarland	6'6"	WF	Sr	Las Vegas, NV (Durango)
11	Luke Babitt	6'6"	WF	Jr	Reno, NV (Galena)
12	Anthony Stewart	6'7"		Jr	Jacksonville, FL (Arlington County Day)
13	Rich Jackson	6'9"	PF	Jr	Philadelphia, PA (Neuman-Goretti)
14	Sam Muldrow	6'10"	C	Jr	Florence, SC (Wilson)
15	Cole Aldrich	7'0"	C	Jr	Bloomington, MN (Jefferson)

The sixteen participating nations have been placed in the following pools:

**Group A:** China, Germany, Sweden, Turkey

**Group B:** Canada, Greece, Italy, Serbia Montenegro

**Group C:** Australia, France, Lithuania, Ukraine

**Group D:** Croatia, Israel, Spain, USA

Groups A and B play at MWS Sporthalle am Herzogenried, near Turley Barracks, Mannheim. Groups C and D have their games at the Benjamin Franklin Village (BFV) Sports Arena.

The pool games of the preliminary round started Saturday at noon in both facilities.

Cross pool games are held today and tomorrow at both sports facilities, and starting Friday, all placement games, semi-finals, and finals take place at the BFV Sports Arena only.

Tickets are on sale at the Rhein-Neckar offices of USO.

For ticket information, call DSN 385-3668/3195 or CIV (0621) 730-3668/3195.

Daily tickets will also be available at the door during the tournament starting one hour prior to game times. Ticket prices for preliminary/cross-over round: Adults \$10 - youth \$6 (Euro prices are 8 and 5 respectively).

Semi-Finals on Friday: Adults \$12 or Euro 10 Youth \$8 or Euro 7; Championship Day April 22: Adults \$17 or Euro 14 Youth \$11 or Euro 9

Reservations for daily tickets for the semi-finals and finals (Friday and Saturday) can also be made at the German Basketball Federation's office by calling CIV. (02331) 106150; at the BBW Office in Leimen near Heidelberg (06224) 766657, or at the DBB Organization Committee Office (0621) 1789230.

The Mannheim Military Community is proud to serve as a co-host of this important tournament, which built bridges of friendship with Eastern block junior national teams during the Cold War and later with even more young athletes and delegates of many re-emerging nations. Come to Mannheim and see future NBA stars in action!

In 1958, when a group of Mannheim basketball enthusiasts first organized a tournament for junior teams, they had no idea of the significance this tourney would gain in international basketball. Back then, the national teams of eight countries participated. In the succeeding years, the meeting of a "small circle" has turned into an event of worldwide recognition.



American students (from left) Hannah Collins, 9, and Jason Quick, 8, participated in the Bavarian Championships in Athletics in the Grafenwoehr Stadthalle April 8. Collins rated 6 of 13. Quick took second in the double competition.

Staff photo by Shannon Hill





Mexican dance group Mis Ninos, from Vilseck, performs at the AOVE (Marketing Working Group, Upper Vils Valley) Trade Fair in Hirschau April 2.

Photo by Christina Gardener

# Camp A.R.M.Y. Challenge Bavaria at Graf

Continued From Page 1

addition to the 78 spaces filled by Army youth.

Camp A.R.M.Y. Challenge Italia sessions for grades six through eight will be held July 9-15 and July 23-29 at Camp Darby, Italy.

The camp will include teambuilding activities, military skill demonstrations, water activities and sight-seeing trips, including a visit to the leaning tower in Pisa.

Camp A.R.M.Y. Challenge Bavaria for grades nine through twelve will be at Grafenwoehr, Germany. The sessions for the high school-age campers will be June 18-24 and August 13-19, and will include adventure activities such as caving, rappelling, water sports and the high ropes course. Teambuilding and self expression activities will also be a core component.

The high school camp sessions will not conflict with either the Summer Hire Program or the high school sports teams' practices.

Campers will only be allowed to attend one session to ensure as many children as possible have an opportunity to attend Camp A.R.M.Y. Challenge this summer.

A \$50 camp registration fee will be charged only when a camper is selected to attend. The fee is to reserve the camper's slot in their assigned session and is due by May 31. Refund of the camp registration fee will be given only if written cancellation is submitted at least two weeks prior to the start of camp.

Central bus pick-up points will provide transportation to all camps. Camp organizers stress that no air transportation or individualized transportation will be funded and families will be wholly responsible for getting their son or daughter to the central bus pick-up points.

Complete information and the application are online at [www.mwr-europe.com](http://www.mwr-europe.com). Applications will be accepted online only; the application deadline is May 5.

## 'Money Matters' open to ID cardholders

### Sign up now at Graf ACS

Continued From Page 1

portfolios, marketing job skills, and financial tips.

The first-time homebuyers' session discusses VA home-loan guarantees and the 20 percent down payment option that the Army offers its employees.

For those who are unable to attend the regularly scheduled classes, individual appointments are offered.

And you don't have to be in financial trouble to attend classes.

Hazzlerigg said her savings has increased since attending a class.

"Since I sat down and planned with (an ACS financial advisor), I have saved about \$5,000 in less than five months," she said. "Talking with them opens whole new doors."

For more information on the classes or for an individual appointment, call DSN(Grafenwoehr) 475-8371 / CIV 09641-83-8371, or DSN (Vilseck) 476-2650 / CIV 09662-83-2650.



ACS's Carey Perks (left) and Leslie Hazzlerigg help clients with budgeting, investing and other financial matters.

Staff photo by Shannon Hill

## ACAP workshop teaches job negotiation

Continued From Page 1

While the pre-separation briefing is the only ACAP activity that is mandatory, Banks said there are several services that can make a significant difference in how well Soldiers and families transition into the civilian sector.

Among those are a two-day transition assistance program, or TAP, workshop that helps participants set goals and helps with resume writing,

interviewing, job search techniques, budgeting, and negotiation skills.

"It's a whole lot of life skills information they can use," said Banks. "These are things that they can learn and actually do and experience in class."

"They are much more prepared when they leave," she said. They have a much better chance of getting a job, and it gives a Soldier a much better feeling about leaving the Army," said Banks.

Clients can use the computerized resume

builder, which offers a ready-made template for creating resumes.

"And we are always here for proof reading and suggestions," said Banks.

A reference library, photocopier, computers, and international phone and fax line are also available to clients.

Garrison Grafenwoehr's ACAP is located in Bldg. 222 at Vilseck.

For more information, call DSN 476-2055.

## Local logistics 'warriors' honored by IMA-Europe

Continued From Page 1

are those with ten to 100 personnel; medium units are between 101 and 300 people, and the large covers from 301 and up.

Capt. Richardo Wilson, commands the Maintenance Activity Vilseck, winner of the Table of Distribution and Allowances category, small unit maintenance award. He credits his professional local national workforce for the unit's success.

"They are well-trained, innovative and flexible," Wilson said. "Their experience base is unbelievable."

The Vilseck unit won the TDA Small maintenance excellence award in 2001 and 2002 and was runner-up in 2004.

This year's winners of the USAREUR-level, *Army Awards for Maintenance Excellence*, are:

**Modification of Table of Organization and Equipment, Small:** Delta Battery, 6th Battalion, 52nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 69th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, V Corps, Ansbach, Germany.

**MTOE Medium:** 71st Ordnance Company, 485th Corps Support Battalion, 16th Corps Support Group, 3rd Corps Support Command, V Corps, Hanau, Germany.

**MTOE Large:** Special Troop

Battalion, V Corps, Schwetzingen, Germany.

**TDA, Small:** Maintenance Activity Vilseck, General Support Center Europe, 21st Theater Support Command, Vilseck, Germany.

**TDA Medium:** Maintenance Activity Pirmasens, General Support Center Europe, 21st Theater Support Command, Pirmasens, Germany.

**TDA Large:** Maintenance Activity Kaiserslautern, General Support Center Europe, 21st Theater Support Command, Kaiserslautern, Germany.

**TDA Small:** U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza, Installation Materiel Maintenance Activity, IMA-EURO, Vicenza, Italy.

**Runners-Up TOE Small:** Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 95th Military Police Battalion, 37th Transportation Command, 21st Theater Support Command, Mannheim, Germany.

**TOE Medium:** 554th Military Police Company, 95th Military Police Battalion, 37th Transportation Command, 21st Theater Support Command, Stuttgart, Germany.

**TDA Small:** Equipment Storage Site Expanded, 7th Army Reserve Command, Mannheim, Germany.

Winners of the Fiscal Year 2006 USAREUR-Level Army Supply

*Excellence Awards:*

**Level 1 (A) MTOE:** Company/Battery/Troop/Detachment: Bravo Company, 141st Signal Battalion, 1st Armored Division, V Corps, Wiesbaden, Germany.

**Level 1 (B) MTOE:** Battalion/Squadron: 95th Military Police Battalion, 37th Transportation Command, 21st Theater Support Command, Mannheim, Germany.

**Level 2 (B) TDA Large:** Maintenance Activity Mannheim, General Support Center Europe, 21st Theater Support Command, Mannheim, Germany.

**Level 3 Property Book Operations:** Troop Support Battalion, 21st Theater Support Command, Kaiserslautern, Germany.

**Level 4 (A) Supply Support Activity MTOE:** 26th Quartermaster and Supply Company, 485th Corps Support Battalion, 16th Corps Support Group, 3rd Corps Support Command, V Corps, Hanau, Germany.

**Level 4 (B) SSA TDA:** Supply Support Activity, AG2, Class IX, Direct Support Supply Division, Supply Activity Kaiserslautern, General Support Center Europe, 21st Theater Support Command, Kaiserslautern, Germany.

**Level 2 (A) TDA Small:** Headquarters and Headquarters

Company, U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart, IMA-EURO, Stuttgart, Germany.

**Level 3 Property Book Operations:** Property Book Office, Baumholder, U.S. Army Garrison Hessen, IMA-EURO, Baumholder, Germany.

**Level 4 (B) SSA TDA:** Supply Support Activity, U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza, IMA-EURO, Vicenza, Italy.

**Runners-Up Level 1 (A) MTOE,** Company/Battery/Troop/

**Detachment:** 5th Maintenance Company, 191st Ordnance Battalion, 29th Support Group, 21st Theater Support Command, Kaiserslautern, Germany.

**Level 1(B) MTOE, Battalion/Squadron:** 1/36 Infantry Battalion, 1st Brigade, 1st Armored Division, V Corps, Friedberg, Germany.

**Level 3 Property Book Operation:** 440th Signal Battalion, 22nd Signal Brigade, V Corps, Darmstadt, Germany.

**Level 4 (A) SSA MTOE:** 71st Ordnance Company, V Corps, Hanau, Germany.

**Level 4 (B) SSA TDA:** Supply Support Activity, AEQ, Class II, IIP, IV, VII, General Support Center Europe, 21st Theater Support Command, Kaiserslautern, Germany.

**Level 2 (A) TDA Small:** Class III TDA Activity, U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr, IMA-EURO, Grafenwoehr, Germany.

**Level 3 Property Book Operations:** Property Book Office, U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach, U.S. Army Garrison Franconia, IMA-EURO, Ansbach, Germany.

**Level 4 (B) SSA TDA:** Regional Supply Support Activity, U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr, IMA-EURO, Vilseck, Germany.

**Honorable Mention Level 2 (A) TDA Small:** Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment Ansbach, U.S. Army Garrison Franconia, IMA-EURO, Ansbach, Germany.

**Level 3 Property Book Operations:** Property Book Office, U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern, U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg, IMA-EURO, Kaiserslautern, Germany.

**Level 4 (B) SSA TDA:** Supply Support Activity, U.S. Army Garrison Benelux, IMA-EURO, Chièvres, Belgium.

Winners will compete for the Army-level Combined Logistics Excellence Awards, and the opportunity to compete for the Department of Defense level Phoenix Awards.



# Zarqawi, al Qaeda threaten Iraq

By STEVEN DONALD SMITH  
*American Forces Press Service*

A senior military spokesman in Baghdad April 10 dismissed as untrue a U.S. newspaper article claiming the U.S. military launched a propaganda campaign to exaggerate terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's significance in Iraq to turn Iraqis against him and sway American public opinion.

"A recent article citing a military briefing from 2004 has called into question the threat that Abu Musab Zarqawi and al Qaeda in Iraq pose to Iraq, dismissing it as 'propaganda' - nothing could be further from the truth," Army Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, a Multinational Force Iraq spokesman, said in a written statement rebutting the Washington Post story.

Zarqawi and al Qaeda in Iraq have openly declared war on the democratic process in Iraq and are responsible for the overwhelming majority of suicide attacks against the Iraqi people, Lynch said.

In addition, statements made by Zarqawi over the past year attest to the threat and the indiscriminate nature of his attacks, he said.

"He has called for foreign fighters to come to Iraq and join the jihad; stated that in order to kill infidels it is acceptable to kill women and children in the

attacks; declared 'all-out' war against the Shiaa and told other religious and tribal groups to join his anti-government cause or face attacks; and has called for increased attacks during Ramadan in order to secure victory and to establish a Muslim nation in Iraq," Lynch said.

The general went on to say that Zarqawi and al Qaeda in Iraq might represent a relatively small portion of the overall insurgency, but their impact has been ruthlessly devastating.

"The terrorists and foreign fighters that he

“ The terrorists that he recruits carry out more than 90 percent of the insidious terrorist attacks.

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch  
Multinational Force Iraq spokesman

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U.S. Marine Corps drill instructors critique a cadet's uniform during the West Coast National Junior ROTC Drill Competition in El Segundo, Calif., April 1. The event drew an estimated 10,000 people and included displays and presentations by all U.S. Armed Forces.

Photo by Navy Journalist 1st Class Brian Brannon

recruits, trains and equips carry out more than 90 percent of the insidious suicide attacks against the men, women and children of Iraq - attacks that have killed or injured thousands of Iraqis in the last year alone," he said.

Lynch cited a letter from Osama bin Laden's deputy, Ayman al-Zawahiri, to Zarqawi, which clearly outlines al Qaeda's goal of becoming the dominant influencing power throughout the Middle East, as proof of their intent.

"Make no mistake, (Zarqawi) and al Qaeda in Iraq are real threats to the citizens, security and stability of Iraq, and we continue to conduct aggressive operations to eliminate the threat they pose not only to Iraq, but also to the rest of the region," Lynch said.

## 75 Iraqis killed by suicide bombers

*American Forces Press Service*

Multiple suicide bombers reportedly detonated explosive devices at the Buratha Mosque in Kadamiyah, Iraq, April 7, killing an estimated 75 Iraqis and wounding another 135 bystanders, officials reported

Three male suicide bombers reportedly exploded inside the Shiite mosque, while one female suicide bomber reportedly exploded outside the mosque at approximately 4 p.m. The mosque itself suffered no structural damage, officials said.

Iraqi army, police and firemen arrived at the scene within minutes of the explosions and provided security and medical assistance. Multinational Division Baghdad soldiers arrived later and established a protective outer cordon.

All 135 wounded Iraqis were evacuated to local area hospitals. Iraqi authorities are investigating the incident.

"Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the Iraqi people. This was a terrible tragedy," said Army Maj. Gen. J.D. Thurman, commanding general of Multinational Division Baghdad. "This clearly shows the inhuman and barbarous nature of the terrorists we are fighting. They will stop at nothing to incite sectarian violence and disrupt the forming of a national unity government."

U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Zalmay Khalilzad offered his "sincerest condolences to the people of Iraq in the wake of the vicious bombing attack on worshippers at the Buratha mosque."

Khalilzad said these terrorists "are the enemies of all faiths and of all humanity... [because they] seek to murder innocent people who worship at Iraq's holy sites and religious institutions." The United States, Khalilzad added, "condemns this cowardly act in the strongest possible terms."

The Buratha mosque is the second-most-significant Shiite mosque in Baghdad. It is a historical mosque and the headquarters of Jalel Addeen Asaghir, an Iraqi parliamentarian. Sayed Mohamad Baqir al-Hakim, the leader of Iraq's Supreme Council for Islamic Revolution and the son of Grand Ayatollah Sayed Muhsin Al Hakim, also worships at the Buratha Mosque.

Officials said use of a female suicide bomber is a proven al Qaeda terrorist tactic. A female suicide bomber in Tal Afar, for instance, killed eight people in September 2005. Another female suicide bomber attacked an American patrol in Mosul last October, officials said.

Khalilzad urged all Iraqis to "exercise restraint in the wake of this tragedy." He asked Iraqis to "come together to fight terror, to continue to resist the provocation to sectarian violence and to pursue justice within the framework of Iraq's laws and constitution."

The United States "will continue to do everything in its power to assist the government of Iraq in bringing to justice those responsible for this heinous crime," he said. "May God bless the people of Iraq," he said.

Elsewhere in Iraq, a U.S. Army patrol from with the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Task Force Band of Brothers, captured a large weapons cache along the Tigris River April 7, officials said.

The cache had 7.62 ammunition rounds, 60mm and 82mm mortar rounds, 60mm mortar tubes, and assorted munitions.

## Riggers provide supplies to Afghans

### 647th Quartermaster airdrops humanitarian relief

by SGT. 1ST CLASS MICHAEL RAUTIO  
*Special to American Forces Press Service*

For the neediest citizens of this mountainous country, humanitarian and relief supplies often arrive in bundles attached to parachutes and dropped from coalition aircraft to the ground.

Members of the 647th Quartermaster Company, made up of platoons from Fort Bragg, N.C., and Fort Campbell, Ky., have prepared 82 such bundles - with 45 tons of supplies - since arriving in Afghanistan Feb. 12.

They are known as riggers because of their mission: rigging the bundles to parachutes and preparing them to withstand the exit from an aircraft, the descent, and finally the impact with the ground.

Riggers also are responsible for making sure they have enough supplies to build each bundle. For a winter bundle, that means blankets, shoes, sugar, stoves and coal; for a survival bundle, that means tool and hygiene kits, beans, rice, cooking oil, salt, tarpaulins and more.

Bundles are built on request, based on when the aircraft will be taking off, explained Army Staff Sgt. Raul Mercado, a rigger deployed from Fort Campbell. Each bundle takes about 20 minutes to build.

"A container delivery system, or CDS, is used to prepare the supplies for the airdrop," explained Army Chief Warrant Officer Cortez



Army Sgt. Juan Felix pushes a pallet into place aboard a C-130 Hercules at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. Riggers prepare humanitarian-aid and other supplies to be dropped for needy Afghans in remote locations.

Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Michael Rautio, USA

Frazier.

The supplies are wrapped with a cargo harness and secured to a skid board. Once a bundle is secure, a parachute is attached to its top.

A regular cargo parachute, 64 feet in diameter, or a high-velocity parachute, 26 feet in diameter, may be used. The type of chute depends on the durability of the supplies and the size of the drop zone, explained Army Sgt. 1st Class Tommie Selmon, also from Fort Campbell.

Before a bundle is loaded onto an aircraft, a member of the aircrew and a member of the rigging team must inspect it. This "joint air

inspection" ensures that the bundles have been rigged properly, Mercado said.

Once a bundle is on an aircraft, the crew and the riggers make sure it can exit the aircraft properly, and then they attach its static line to the anchor line cable.

A static line pulls out the pilot parachute, which in turn deploys the main chute when the bundle leaves the aircraft, Mercado said.

Once a bundle lands safely on target, coalition troops on the ground break it down and distribute its contents.

The parachute and other gear used to drop the supplies will be returned to Bagram to be used on a future mission, Mercado said.

## Senate confirms England as deputy defense secretary

by GERRY GILMORE  
*American Forces Press Service*

The U.S. Senate confirmed Gordon England as the 29th deputy secretary of defense during a Capitol Hill voice vote conducted April 6, according to a statement from England's office.

England served as acting deputy secretary of defense and secretary of the Navy simultaneously from

May 16, 2005, to Jan. 4, 2006, when he was recess-appointed by President Bush to his current position.

A native of Baltimore, England



England

graduated from the University of Maryland in 1961 with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. He earned a master's degree in business administration from the M.J. Neeley School of Business at Texas Christian University at Fort Worth, in 1975.

England has twice served as the Navy secretary, and also was the Department of Homeland

Security's first deputy secretary.

In private industry England served as executive vice president of General Dynamics Inc. from 1997 to 2001.

He'd also served as the president of General Dynamics', later Lockheed's, Fort Worth aircraft company branch, and as president of General Dynamics Land Systems Co.